## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-13 /083 W

R 011230Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY SANA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1392 INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA AMEMBASSY LONDON

CONFIDENTIAL SANA 2098

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, PFOR, YE, SA

REF: SANA 2097 AND SANA 1825

1. FOREIGN MINISTER ABDALLAH AL-ASNAJ INFORMED ME ON MAY 28 THAT HE NOW EXPECTS PRESIDENT AL-HAMDI WILL BE VISITING RIYADH IN LATE JUNE ON HIS WAY TO FRANCE IN ORDER TO HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH HIGHEST MEMBERS OF THE SAUDI LEADERSHIP RE INTERNAL YEMENI SITUATION WHICH, AL-ASNAJ SAID, HE HOPES "WILL BE THRASHED OUT" AT THAT TIME. AL-ASNAJ CONTINUED THAT IN THIS CONNECTION AL-HAMDI WILL SOON BE WRITING A LETTER TO KING KHALID SUGGESTING THAT HE CALL ON KING ON HIS WAY TO FRANCE FOR CONSULTATIONS

2. COMMENT: AL-ASNAJ USED IDENTICAL LANGUAGE IN DESCRIB-ING PRUPOSE ("THRASH OUT") OF THIS TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA AS HE HAD SEVERAL WEEKS AGO (SEE SANA 1825). BOTH TIMES AL-ASNAJ EMPHASIZED HOW IMPORTANT THESE REGULAR CONTACTS ARE WITH SAUDI ARABIAN LEADERSHIP, NOTING PARTICULARLY THE NEED FOR MEETING NOW AT TIME WHEN AL-AHMAR PROBLEM CONTINUES TO FESTER. FROM SANA VANTAGE POINT, EVERY CONFIDENTIAL

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INDICATION POINTS TO INCREASING SAUDI SUPPORT FOR AL-HAMDI. THUS, WE EXPECT THAT IF JUNE MEETING TAKES PLACE IN RIYADH, AL-HAMDI WILL BE GIVEN FURTHER SAUDI ASSURANCES TO ENABLE HIM TO TRY TO FIND SOME POLITICAL SOLUTION TO AL-AHMAR PROBLEM. LATTER ISSUE, WHEN VIEWED AGAINST RECENT AL-HAJRI ASSASSINATION AND INCREASED SOVIET ACTIVITY IN ETHIOPIA, HAS GENUINELY CONCERNED AL-HAMDI

REGIME WHICH SEES ITSELF SPREAD DANGEROUSLY THIN IN TRY-ING TO WITHSTAND PRESSURES APPLIED ON IT FROM BOTH IDEOLOGICAL LEFT AND TRIBAL RIGHT.
SCOTES

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: IBRAHIM AL-HAMDI CHIEF OF STATE VISITS TAGS: OTRA, PFOR, OVIP, YE, SA, (AL-HAMDI, IBRAHIM)

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